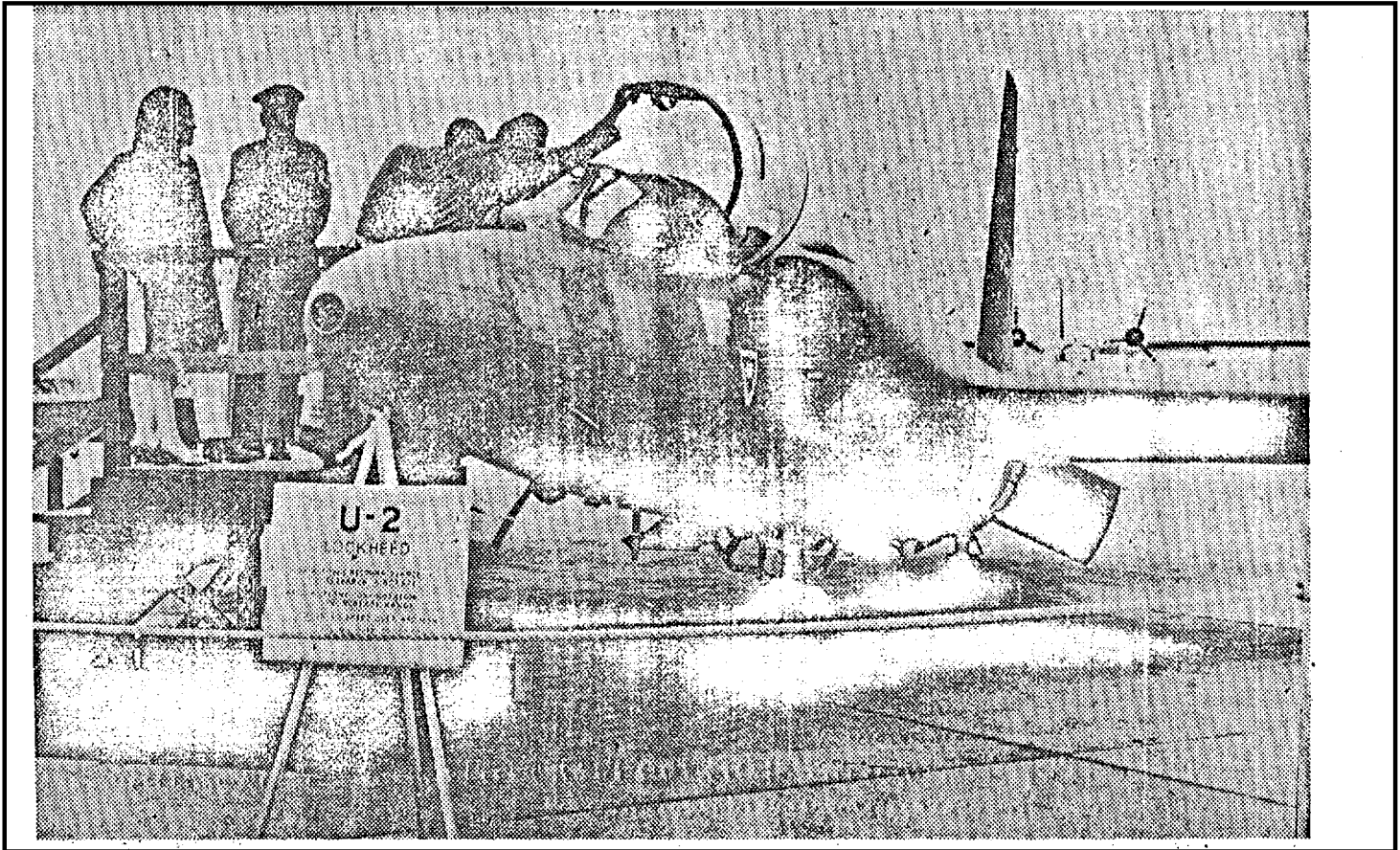


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The famous U2 spy plane draws the attention of some visitors.

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Soldiers, sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen based at Washington area installations will be spending the next couple of days removing sticky fingerprints from tanks, bulkheads, instrument panels and brass fittings.

But that's all right. The marks are obvious indications that Armed Forces Day observances here yesterday were, in military parlance, successful operations.

An estimated 42,000 visitors, most of them youngsters, swarmed over displays at Ft. Belvoir, Marine Corps Schools, at Quantico, the Navy Yard and Andrews Air Force Base.

One of the big attractions at Andrews was the 30-man delegation of the 1st Air Commando Wing from Hurlburt Field, Fla., looking tanned and tough in their fatigues and jaunty Australian bush hats.

Another display that got a lot of attention was the somewhat sinister-looking U2 plane, painted black; the type of high altitude, long-range jet that Francis Gary Powers was piloting over Russia when he was shot down in the famous "sky spy" incident.